It is the desire of this fellowship to live out and give out the good news of the love of Jesus Christ

December Newsletter

If this is your first time with us or are visiting, we're happy you are joining us today! If you have any questions or would like to find out more about St Margaret's then please speak to a member of our welcome team, Churchwarden or Service leaders. We hope you will join us for after-service refreshments (we make a great cup of tea!)

Church News

We had a wonderful time celebrating Mariella's baptism during our service on the 24th November. The church was full of joy, and it was a real blessing to hear Rachel and Eva share their own worship song with the rest of the church for the first time.

On the 15th December (3pm), we will have our annual nativity outreach event. Like last year, we will do an engaging service followed up by a meal for everyone who attends. Here are two things we would love you to do. Firstly, do invite as many neighbours, friends and work colleagues as you can - we would love to see the church full to the brim! Secondly, do come and be part of the day. There are lots of different ways you can help out on the day (speak to Olau or Jennie about that), and we would also love for as many St.

Margaret's people as possible to be available to talk to visitors.

We are now in advent, and we can begin to reflect on the coming of Christ as we count down to Christmas. We are blessed to have a number of familiar visitors preaching during December, including Dale Barton, Archdeacon Andy Jolley, Bishop Toby Howarth and Sam Sagar (what a line up!). Do please note that we will not have a service at St. Margaret's on the 29th December. A number of other local churches will have services on that day, however, including St. Paul's Manningham (10.30am) and St. Paul's Shipley (9.45am).

Services

Sunday 1st December - 10am: "God's restoration of his people and all creation" Speaker: Dale Barton

Sunday 8th December - 10am: Holy Communion. "God's future: judgment and healing" Speaker: Archdeacon Andy Jolley

Sunday 15th December- 3pm: Nativity Service

Sunday 22nd December- 10am: Holy Communion. Speaker: Bishop Toby Howarth

Sunday 25th December- 10am: Holy Communion.

Speaker: Sam Sagar

Please note that we won't have a service at St. Margaret's on the 29th December.

We encourage you to attend either St. Paul's Manningham (10.30am)

or St. Paul's Shipley (9.45am).



Wednesday 4th December – Over 50's Meal in the church hall. 12pm for 12:30 serving.

Thursday 5th December – Over 50's meeting in the crèche room @ 2pm. Service of Holy Communion with Rev John Peet followed by refreshments

*Please come in through the bottom door on St Margaret's Road**

Friday 13th December- What's the story of Christmas

Our annual invitation has gone to the year 3 class at Frizinghall Primary school. The students will be led round by a guide to hear 7 stories, visit a reflective zone and finally the Bible Base. Each will receive a story chain/bracelet, worksheets and refreshments. Setting up and dressing the Storytelling Stations will be done during Wednesday and Thursday and help with this work would be appreciated, as would help to pack everything up from 3pm onwards on the Friday. Help with the refreshments morning and/or afternoon is also needed. To volunteer, sponsor some story chains, or to ask for more details please talk to Trevor or Helen Longman.

Regular Weekly Events

Tuesdays: 9.45-11.45am - PATCH

Wednesdays: 10am-12pm - Places of welcome cafe & knitting group **Thursdays:** 10:15 - 11:45am Keep-fit for the over 50's Christ Church Windhill

Thursdays: 6.30-7.15pm - Homework club

Shipley Christians Together

Sunday 1st December @ 7:30pm: Live @ Costa

Wednesday 11th December (Evening): Carol at Costa in aid of Christian Aid – See noticeboard for full details

Thursday 19th December @ 7:30pm: Pray for Shipley – Special prayers for the Christmas period at 39 Westroyd Road, Windhill

To help **support Inn Churches** go to: `12 Days of Giving' any time until December 19 and vote for them to have the opportunity to receive £1,000 of funding by filling in their details – Charity number: 1149792, category: `Poverty', and completing the rest of the form.

From the Diocese

Sunday 1 December @ 18:00: Advent procession - Bradford Cathedral

An atmospheric, candlelit service, during which the choir will process round the cathedral, singing both centuries-old and contemporary worship

Saturday 14 December @ 16:00: Christingle - Bradford cathedral

A fun and interactive service for all ages. Exploring the meaning of Christmas through song, film and making Christingles. Followed by cake and refreshments.

Monday 16 December @ 18:00 - The City Carol Service

The Lord Mayor of Bradford welcomes all to this annual carol service to sing popular carols and hear the Cathedral Choir. A special event for all ages.

Sunday 22 December @ 18:00 - Nine lessons and carols

A traditional candle-lit service of readings intermingled with community carols and pieces sung by the Cathedral Choir, hosted by the Dean and Clergy of Bradford Cathedral

Tuesday 24 December @ 13:00 - Christmas Eve carol concert

The cathedral choir presents its annual Christmas Eve recital. Music, poetry, witty Christmas stories and the best-loved Christmas carols come together in this yearly celebration

Tuesday 24 December @ 16:00 - Messy crib

Telling the Christmas story and celebrating this special time through music, crafts, drama, food, fun and togetherness.

Please see church noticeboard or speak to Olau / Pippa for more details on any of the above services & events



- **2 December -** Let's pray that God will bring many from our communities to the Christmas celebration on 15 December. Ask God who He might want you to invite too! And pray that people will encounter Jesus and be drawn toward Him through the event.
- **9 December -** Pray for the details for the Christmas celebration, that everything would come together as it should. Pray that we would work well together as a church to make it happen, and that we would stay healthy to be able to welcome and serve well.
 - **16 December -** Pray that seeds that were sown during the Christmas celebration would take root in people's hearts and bear fruit.
- **23 December -** Pray that our hearts would be focused on Christ in the midst of the holiday season and led to worship Him!
 - **30 December -** Pray that God would do His work in St. Margaret's in the year to come and lead us together to build His Kingdom as we draw near to Him!

Also we continue to pray for all those suffering in body, mind, spirit or grief

Prayer Chain

Don't forget that the prayer chain is available to anyone who would like confidential prayer for themselves or a friend. Please use the blue box in church, or telephone Anne Ward on 01274 581061

Missed a sermon? Listen again to all our sermons & talks via our website!

Have something for next months newsletter? The submission deadline will be **Monday 23rd December**. Please email items directly to our administrator, Amy Milner, on amy@amadmin.co.uk and copy in Olau on olau@smcf-church.org.uk.

Priest in Charge (Vicar): Revd Mark Watson Churchwarden: Olau Thomassen Mob: 07514 765244 www.smcf-church.org.uk www.facebook.com/stmargaretsfrizinghall